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Damage Control Association

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for

December 1989

The Probe, Issue 98 - December 1989

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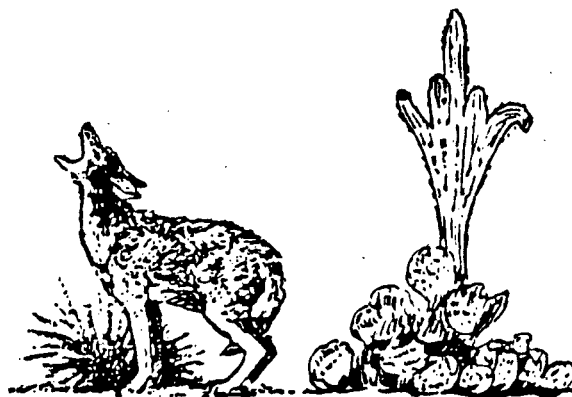
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"The Probe, Issue 98 - December 1989" (1989). *The Probe: Newsletter of the National Animal Damage Control Association*. 167.

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THE PROBE



National Animal Damage Control Association

DECEMBER 1989

NUMBER 98

VOTE! DAMMIT!

Unlike most past NADCA elections, you are finally being given a choice to change or strengthen the direction NADCA will take in the future. The organization was founded some eleven years ago by retired USFWS-ADC employees who were dedicated to the profession in which they had spent all of their lives. They felt the shift from an agrarian to an urban economy resulted in a public unaware of the essential services they performed and administrators in the USFWS politically motivated to hamstringing the operation. They did play a big part in getting the ADC operation moved from the strangling influence of USDI into the more appreciative arms of USDA, but they failed to get the support they expected from either the rank and file of Federal ADC, non-Federal ADC workers, beneficiaries of ADC activities, or wildlife professionals in general. In an effort to revitalize NADCA we had a mass resignation of those who founded the organization and a major drive to interest well-qualified professionals from many more areas than just APHIS. We had also been accused of being upper level employees with no appreciation of trapper level problems (despite the fact that ALL of us started at the very bottom). This time the two candidates in one region are both District Supervisors.

The following are brief biographical sketches of candidates for NADCA offices for 1990. Unfortunately, we were unable to contact some individuals in time and have to rely on the incomplete

information available to YE ED to meet our deadline:

PRESIDENT : TERRELL P. SALMON, Extension Wildlife Specialist, Univ. of California, Davis (CA)

Terry was born in Fullerton (CA) and got his BS, MS, and PhD all at the Univ. of California-Davis in Renewable Natural Resources and Ecology. After getting his BS he was a Lieutenant in the U.S. Coast Guard for three years where he was responsible for the environmental impact statement program development and supervision. He then returned to UC-D as a staff research associate in the Vertebrate Ecology Lab from 1975-78. In 1978 he was appointed to his current position. His career has centered on ecology, behavior, population dynamics, and control of vertebrates particularly those affecting agricultural production and public health. He has developed decision-making models for population simulation and wildlife damage control as well as IPM programs for various wildlife species. His main involvement is the dissemination of information to agricultural producers, wildlife managers, and the public on techniques for reducing wildlife damage. He has published 66 articles and is an active member in the AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MAMMALOGISTS, CALIF. NATURAL RESOURCES FED., CALIF. VERTEBRATE PEST COUNCIL, THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY, and WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE.

VICE PRESIDENT - EAST : JAMES A. MILLER, Chief, USDA - Extension

Wildlife Specialists, Fairfax (VA)

Jim was an Extension Wildlife Specialist in Little Rock (AR) before becoming the BIG ONE.

VICE PRESIDENT - WEST :
DARRELL I. GRETZ, Asst. Reg. Director
 for APHIS-ADC Western Region, Denver
 (CO)

Darrell was born and raised in Oregon, receiving his BS degree in Wildlife Management from Oregon State University. When 17 years old, he started his wildlife career raising upland game birds on an Oregon State Game Comm. game farm, obtaining experience in controlling hawks, owls, fox, and other small carnivores. His first actual ADC job was with Oregon State University as a Rodent Control Agent, working on field rodent damage to agricultural crops.

In 1957, Darrell started his career with the Government, as a trapper in Baker Co. (OR) for the USFWS-PARC. From there he advanced up the ladder through several supervisory positions in Portland and Bend (OR); Billings (MT); and Denver (CO). He served in the U.S. Navy Air Force during the Korean War as a Pistol Range instructor on North Island (CA).

Darrell and his wife (LaVonne) have twin boys, two girls, and five grandchildren. He is planning to retire from APHIS on December 30, 1989.

SECRETARY : BOB WILLGING,
 USDA-APHIS, Dist. Supervisor, Ft. Worth
 (TX).

TREASURER : WESLEY R. JONES,
 rtd. USFWS-ADC, Shell Lake, WI

Born and raised in Connecticut, he got his BS in wildlife management from the Univ. of Connecticut in 1948 and his MS at the Univ. of Massachusetts in 1950. While in school he carried on studies of squirrel damage to cables for Ma Bell and did his thesis on the white-tailed deer. He went to work for the USFWS in 1950 in Westboro (MA). Later he was sent to the Rodent Control Fund in Amherst to supervise bait mixing. Eventually, he became Asst. District Agent for Massachusetts,

Connecticut, and Rhode Island. He shifted to the USFWS Branch of Refuges in 1958 and served as refuge manager at the Bombay Hook (DL) and Moosehorn (ME) Wildlife Refuges. He returned to ADC in 1966 as State Supervisor in Pierre (SD) for South Dakota/Nebraska. From there he was sent to Washington, D.C. as Asst. Chief, Branch of Animal Damage Control in 1969. He returned to the field in 1971 as Regional Supervisor of ADC programs in Region III's midwestern states. He held this position in the Twin Cities area (MN) until his retirement in 1978. He and his wife, Barbara, live in a rural section in Wisconsin.

REGIONAL DIRECTORS (Vote for one for your Region)

REGION I : WA-OR-CA-NV

THOMAS R. HOFFMAN, USDA-APHIS,
 State Director, Portland (OR)

Tom was born in Warren, Ohio but moved to southern California where he attended high school and junior college. He graduated from Humboldt State University (Arcata, CA) with a BS degree in Wildlife Management. After graduation, Tom worked for a brief period with the California Dept. of Fish & Game. He then spent three years in the Army (one in Vietnam) as a First Lt. In April, 1972, Tom hired on as an Animal Damage Control Specialist (county trapper) in northeastern Washington running a trapline for about two years. He became a supervisory trainee in Moses Lake (WA) until moved to Yakima to become State Supervisor in 1978. In the fall of 1979, he transferred to Albuquerque (NM) where he served as the Asst. State Supervisor and later State Supervisor. In the fall of 1986, he moved to his present position in Portland (OR) as the State Director.

REGION II : AZ/CO/NM/UT

FRANKLIN W. ANDERSON, Rancher,
 Ignacio, CO

Frank was born and raised in Pagosa Springs (CO). He attended Ft. Lewis College and Colorado A&M graduating with a BS in animal husbandry. Agriculture and wildlife has always been an

an important segment of his life as his father, LLOYD J. ANDERSON, served 39 years as a trapper in State and Federal ADC programs. He grew up rolling drop baits, dipping coyote getter casings in wax, and digging pits for 1080 disposal. Upon completion of college, he enlisted in the Navy and was commissioned in 1957 as an Ensign. He served 21 years in the Navy and was instrumental in the formation of the elite Navy SEALs. He was commanding officer of SEAL TEAM ONE and holds the LEGION OF MERIT, BRONZE STAR with COMBAT V, PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION, NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION, COMBAT ACTION ribbon, VIETNAMESE CROSS OF GALLANTRY (SILVER STAR), and Republic of Vietnam MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION.

He is currently raising sheep, cattle, and horses in Allison (CO) and has been active in community service, Colorado Sheep & Wool Board, and Director of San Juan Basin Woolgrowers Assn. He served 9 years as Chairman of the La Plata County Predator Control Comm. and was instrumental in reviving predator control in the San Juan Basin. He is active in 4H, politics, and is currently President of the 4 Corners Rtd. Officers Assn. He married Martha Kuhnelt of San Diego (CA) and they have four grown children. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, trapping, and woodworking and he is building his own house.

DR. FREDERICK F. KNOWLTON, Wildlife Research Biologist, APHIS-ADC, Logan, UT

Got started as a farm boy in western New York. His academic career included a BS from Cornell (NY), an MS from Montana State and a PhD from Purdue (IN). Early research endeavors involved black bears (166 notches on his bear trap from NY), a summer and winter full of moose (MT), and several years with coyotes and white-tailed deer (TX). He was employed for brief periods by the NY Conservation Dept. (would you believe it started at \$1.00/day with room and board?), the Montana Fish & Game Dept., the Univ. of Missouri at Kansas City, and Cornell Univ. He signed on with the federal ADC Program as a research biologist with the Denver Wildlife Research Center at their San Antonio

(TX) Field Station in 1964, transferring to Logan (UT) in 1972 as Leader of Predator Ecology and Behavior Project. His 27 years in coyote research have focused primarily on coyote population dynamics, coyote-prey interactions (white-tailed deer initially and more recently black-tailed jackrabbits), coyote behavior, and development of coyote depredation control tools and strategies.

REGION III: ID-MT-WY

R. EDWIN HARTIN, District Supervisor, APHIS-ADC, Boise (ID)

Ed was born in Oklahoma and got his BS from Oklahoma State Univ. in Wildlife management. He spent three years with the Oklahoma State Health Dept. Water Quality Lab, five years in the Soil Conservation Service; three years as District Supervisor APHIS-ADC for eastern Oklahoma; and two years in his current position in Idaho.

CRAIG MAYCOCK, District Supervisor, APHIS-ADC, Rock Springs (WY)

Craig was born in Fillmore (OK) and went to school in Beaver (OK). He has spent the last seventeen years in Rock Springs starting as a trapper and working his way up to his present position.

REGION IV: AR-LA-OK-TX
DR. ALBERT V. BIVINGS, IV, Extension Wildlife Specialist, Stuttgart (AR)

Bert just recently converted from District Supervisor, APHIS-ADC in Stuttgart (AR) to become an Extension Specialist. A shy, retiring sort he forgot to give me his resume (*but his last words appeared in LETTERS TO YE ED in the previous PROBE*). He is known as a song-writer extraordinaire and "Mr. Blackbird" in the rice paddies of Arkansas.

REGION V: IA-KS-MN-MO-ND-NE-SD

DR. RON J. JOHNSON, Extension Wildlife Specialist, Univ. of Nebraska, Lincoln (NE)

Ron's roots lie between a Tennessee mountain top and the Ohio Valley but he entered the world in Dayton, OH in 1946. He got his BS (1968) and MS (1973)

(wildlife management) from Ohio State University and his PhD from Cornell (NY) in 1979. His graduate research dealt with red-winged blackbird/corn damage. He served as a 1st Lt. parachutist in the infantry (1968-71) in Vietnam, receiving 10 citations.

He has been Extension Wildlife Specialist and Assoc. Prof. at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln since 1979. His research interests include - bird dispersal mechanisms, wildlife/agriculture interrelationships (conservation-tillage systems), wildlife behavior in relation to prevention and control of damage. He has written over 50 articles and has received several awards for excellence in publishing. He is a member of several professional organizations, including NADCA since 1979.

REGION VI: IL-IN-MI-OH-WI

**TOM HAUGE, Public Services Chief,
Bureau of Wildlife Management,
Department of Natural Resources,
Madison, WI**

Tom has been recently promoted to this position - previously he had been supervisor of ADC activities for the State. He is a Wisconsin native getting his BS and MS in wildlife ecology at the Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison. He has been employed by the DNR since 1979. He is member of TWS and outgoing President of the Wisconsin Chapter of that organization.

REGION VII:

CT-MA-ME-NJ-NH-NY-PA-RI-VT

**GERRY ATWELL, Fish & Wildlife
Biologist, APHIS-ADC, Grafton, MA**

Gerry received his BS in Wildlife Management at the Univ. of Massachusetts in 1954. After a stint in the military, he earned an MS in Wildlife Technology at the University of Montana with his study on predation of pheasant nests. In the early 1960's he worked with the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game, first as one of three Regional Game Management Biologists and then as Project Leader for the State's moose investigations. He returned to Montana as Asst. Leader of the Cooperative Wildlife Research

Unit. In 1969 he signed on with the DWRC stationed in the Philippines to establish the Rodent Research Center at the Univ. of the Philippines College of Agriculture. Two years later he moved to Kodiak, Alaska and for six years was manager of the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge. In 1977 he was selected as a Staff Specialist at the USFWS' newly-created Area Office in Concord (NH) and worked with the Wildlife Assistance and Refuge field offices in New England. When the Area Offices were disbanded, Gerry became the Wildlife Assistance Supervisor for the USFWS Region V. Since 1986, Gerry has been the Fish & Wildlife Biologist for the New England area.

**JAMES E. FORBES, State Director,
APHIS-ADC, Averill Park, NY**

Jim was born in Erskine (MN) on May 20, 1937. He attended schools in Warren (MN) before entering the U.S. Army where he was stationed at Nike missile sites in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. After three years in the army he entered the Univ. of Minnesota graduating with a BS in Wildlife & Forest Management (1963). Another three years with the Museum of Natural History were spent studying the red fox. He also worked with the U.S. Forest Service, SD Fish, Game, & Parks, and MN Dept. of Conservation before employment by the USFS (1966). He started in the bait mixing station in Amherst (MA) before being made ADC State Supervisor in New York (1967) which position he holds under APHIS. He is responsible for ADC activities across the State including blackbird/starling control on roosts, roost surveys in NY/MS/AL, gull control studies on Lake Champlain (NY), Monomy Island (MA), and Jamiaca Bay (NY). Jim has written 11 ecological bird management plans for airports/airbases.

REGION VIII: DL/MD/NC/SC/VA/WV

**WM. PHILIP EGGBORN, Supervisor Field
Operations, VA Bureau of Plant
Protection, VDG, Mechanicsville (VA)**

Phil was born in Culpepper (VA) on May 21, 1948 and attended the county schools before graduating from VPI & SU in 1970 with a BS in Forestry and Wildlife Management. In 1971 he was

employed by the Virginia Dept. of Agriculture in Richmond as a regulatory inspector to handle Virginia's nuisance bird problems. From a one man bird control unit in 1971 to the 8 inspectors who now handle the workload, he has been largely responsible for the improvement and implementation of the services offered in that State's nuisance bird control program. He oversees all field activities for the 35 inspectors and 7 supervisors whose activities, in addition to bird control, now include apiary and nursery inspection, export certification, endangered plant species, bio-control, various weed control programs, and answering rodent complaints. Phil is currently involved in the development of a cooperative USDA-VDACS agreement to address coyote depredation under the Bureau of Plant Protection and hopefully in place by 1990.

EUGENE A. LEOEUF, Wildlife Biologist,
Dept. of Transportation, FAA,
Washington, DC

Gene got his BS (Forestry, Wildlife, Zoology) at Louisiana State University in 1978. He served two years as a Research Associate Biologist at LSU Rice Research Station, six years as a Wildlife Assistance Biologist in the USFWS, and three years as a Supervisory Animal Damage Control Biologist in the APHIS-ADC. He is currently working for the Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Airport Standards. All areas of previous expertise dealt with the resolution of wildlife conflicts including, but not limited to, wildlife hazards at airports. He is a life member of the Louisiana Wildlife Biologists' Society and has an excellent sense of humor (which he'll need in Washington).

REGION IX: AL/FL/GA/KY/MS/TN

KENNETH M. GARNER, State Director,
APHIS-ADC, Nashville (TN)

Ken got his BS in Zoology (1960) and MS in Game Management (1962) from Louisiana State University. He was a field biologist for the National Center for Disease Control before becoming a District Agent in PARC at the Nutria Station in Louisiana. He has been State

Supervisor for the Kentucky-Tennessee District under a number of organizational changes in names since 1965 and is currently the State Director under APHIS for that area.

He is married with two grown children. His wife is an Administrative Assistant with the National Wildlife Federation State Affiliate in Nashville (TN). He is very active with his hobbies of hunting, fishing, canoeing, hiking, traveling, and camping. He is a member of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY and TENNESSEE CONSERVATION LEAGUE.

ALLEN R. STICKLEY, Research Biologist,
DWRC, APHIS, Mississippi State (MS)

Al is originally from the Washington, D.C. area. He got his BS in zoology from George Washington Univ. (1955) and his MS in Wildlife Management from Virginia Polytechnic Institute (1958). He worked three years in black bear research for the Virginia Game Comm. before joining the Bird Damage Research Section of the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in the USFWS in 1960. Since then he has worked at all of the bird damage field research stations in the eastern USA. At Delaware and Ohio he was mainly concerned with the testing of repellents, including AVITROL and mesurol on crops. In Florida, he was involved in much of the initial research with PA-14, and in Kentucky he was instrumental in the development of a sprinkler system technique for spraying bird roosts with PA-14 without the need for attendant rainfall. He is now involved with the cormorant-catfish problem in Mississippi.

REGION X: Washington, D.C.

CLARENCE E. FAULKNER, rtd. USFWS,
Falls Church (VA)

Ki was born and brought up in Maine. He got his BS in Wildlife Conservation at the University of Maine and did graduate work in Public Administration at George Washington University (D.C.). He served in the military ski troops in Italy during WWII and in Okinawa during the Korean conflict. His professional career started as a Big Game Biologist for

Maine Fish & Game. In 1949 he entered USFWS PARC program as a biologist in the New England States. In 1958 he was made Regional Supervisor for the Northeast. In 1964 he transferred to the same position for the North Central States. In 1972 he became the Regional Environmental Coordinator and Acting Assoc. Regional Director in the same Region. He came back to ADC as Chief in Washington, D.C. in 1976 and Staff Expert (ADC) in 1980. In 1982 he became Chief of the Division of Environmental Contaminants. On his retirement from government in 1986, he and Irene continued to live in Falls Church (VA) where they are active in community service. He is a member of THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY, FAIRFAX COUNTY (VA) SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, SAE FRATERNITY, NATIONAL EAGLE SCOUT ASSN., etc.

Enclosed please find a stamped post card to make the task easier. Write in space is available to write in your nomination for an individual not listed on the ballot. Under "Region" write in the number of the region you are voting in and the name of the person you wish to vote for as Director. PLEASE do this RIGHT NOW as HOMER FORD will close the poll on January 15, 1990 and tally them on the next day. The next Editor(s) of THE PROBE will be selected by the Executive Board.

In the days of the Pony Express it took a week to get a letter from St. Louis to San Francisco. Today, thanks to our efficient Postal Service, it only takes seven days.

I QUIT!

At the NADCA Annual Meeting in Madison (WI), I announced that I was resigning as President of the Association effective Jan. 15, 1990. I appreciate the work the officers contributed to get our Association established. We accomplished our initial objective to make ADC stronger and recognized as an integral part of wildlife management. We also initiated the effort to get the ADC program transferred from the Department of the Interior, where it was not appreciated, to the Department of Agriculture (APHIS) where it was

originally.

I am disappointed that we could not generate more interest for membership from the active ADC personnel. After all, it was for them that I went to the trouble of providing a "sounding board" so they could express their "beefs" to their supervisors through the Association.

I also want to especially thank Fitz and Ann for their thankless work in going to press with THE PROBE these past years. WES JONES (our Treasurer) is also commended for designing an excellent computer program to track our funds and membership and making it work. His annual reports were a great improvement over our previous method.

I will continue to support the new "younger" platoon of officers on board to carry on the Association goals. However, a word of advice: It will take more members than we presently have to accomplish the objectives spelled out in our brochure. For 1990 let's see if every member can recruit at least one new member. As Fitz would say in his "one-liners" - "Old trappers never die - they just smell that way." GEORGE S. ROST

HOMER FORD, BILL NELSON, NORTON MINER, MILT CAROLINE, JOHNNY JONES, and YE ED say "ditto".

For the holidays, my doctor put me on the Mistletoe Diet. All the foods I like, I have to kiss off.

MEETIN'S

JAN 02 - 54th ANNUAL PURDUE PEST CONTROL CONF., W. Lafayette, IN

JAN 08 - NATURAL RESOURCES COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP, CSU, Chico, CA

JAN 08 - WILDLIFE COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP, Albuquerque, NM

JAN 11 - ANNUAL MEETING NY CHAPTER THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY, Ithaca, NY

JAN 14 - AMERICAN SHEEP INDUSTRY CONVENTION, Phoenix, AZ

FEB 11 - 43rd ANNUAL MEETING SOCIETY FOR RANGE MANAGEMENT, Reno, NV

MAR 6-8 - FOURTEENTH VERTEBRATE PEST CONFERENCE, 1990 in Sacramento, CA (Red Lion Inn). Contact: Dr. Terrell Salmon,

Wildl. Ext., Univ. Calif.-Davis, CA 95616.

MAR 10 - PREDATOR MANAGEMENT IN NORTH COASTAL CALIFORNIA, Hopland Field Station, Hopland, CA

MAR 16 - ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY, Denver, CO

MAR 16 - 55th NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE & NATURAL RESOURCES CONF., Denver, CO

MAR 23 - ARIZONA WOLF SYMPOSIUM (sponsored by PAWS), Mesa, AZ

APR 09 - NATIVE AMERICAN FISH & WILDLIFE SOCIETY Annual meeting, Rapid City, SD Aug. 15-17, 1990

AUG 15-17 - MANAGING PREDATION TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF WETLAND BIRDS, at the Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Ctr., Jamestown, ND. Contact Alan B. Sargeant, NPWRC, POB 2096, Jamestown, ND 58402 (701) 252-5363.

AUG 27 - FOUR CORNERS ADC CONF., Cortez, CO

U.S. automakers are getting desperate. If sales continue to drop, they may have to resort to quality.

APHIS ACTIVITY REPT.

(The following are abstracted from APHIS-ADC activity reports and newsletters like IDAHO TRAPPIN AND GABBIN, TEXAS TRAPLINE, THE TRAPPERS' JAW, etc. for the benefit of non-APHIS readers. This is not a publication source. Only names of NADCA members are used in situations in which they are involved. So if you want to see your name in print, better join up.)

COYOTES: (ND) A rancher reported losing 30 sheep valued at \$2,500 in one night to coyotes. ADC confirmed 25 animals killed mostly by suffocation because of piling up in one corner of the pen after being chased by coyotes. One coyote was taken in a snare after the incident.

(OR) When a trapper took a coyote that had killed more than 54 lambs valued at \$3,000, the coyote was wearing a collar with a name tag. *(I hope it had an address too.)*

MAGPIES: (WA) ADC has been receiving reports on increased numbers of magpies damaging apple, almond, and grape crops. Modified starling decoy

traps, baited with red-colored dry dog food, have successfully reduced their populations.

We don't have to ever worry about going to war with Japan again. Why would they bomb their own property?

LETTERS TO YE ED

TOM HARDISKY, Harrisburg, PA:

Although I left KEN GARNER's group (TN) last August for a position with the Pennsylvania Gaem Comm., I want to keep abreast of NADCA news. THE PROBE is not only informative but also very entertaining. Our secretarial staff looks forward to every issue. I'm going to miss working with the great group of professionals in the ADC field.

BOB BEACH, APHIS, Riverdale, MD:

Glad to hear THE PROBE will continue. I like it. The following article is so ignorant it would appear to be a joke, but I doubt if the rancher is laughing.

DOG SUMMONED AS WITNESS IN TRIAL

Cuddles, a springer spaniel, appeared for the prosecution in a trial of a sheep rancher accused of killing her litter-mate when both dogs strayed on his property. A court-appointed animal expert, draped in a white sheet and wearing a straw hat, crawled towards Cuddles on all fours. Cuddles cowered behind her owner. The prosecution (Deputy DA Rosalie Morton) claimed this proved that Cuddles and her litter-mate, Freckles, would never attack sheep. If found guilty, the rancher faces up to seven years in prison and a \$20,000 fine. (Los Angeles, CA)

Bob says: I would like to know more about this "animal expert". If he/she truly thinks that a dog's response to a person covered with a sheet, wearing a straw hat, in a building, surrounded by people, and (presumably) not smelling like a sheep, is a realistic test of whether the dog's litter-mate would chase sheep, we are in trouble. With logic like this, if the family of the accused doesn't kill one of the jurists during the trial it's proof the accused isn't a killer.

JOHN STEWART, AV-ALARM CORP., Eugene,
OR:

Although we are no longer the principal suppliers of AV-ALARM products, I continue to enjoy your news letters. Last April we sold the product line as well as the Transonic & Verminex ultrasonic product lines to Weitech, Inc. (340 Hood St., Sisters, OR 97759). Because of name conflicts we have changed our name to SRT, Inc. and are returning to the business we started in 1960, namely research and development in acoustics and speech processing. Any interest in devices which have digital recordings of animal sounds? The same technology that creates products for Park Service annunciators can also be adapted to wildlife control. The nice feature of this is you don't need a professional programmer to make the recordings.

ED OLSON, former ADC, Nava'jo
Reservation, now Navy, Alameda, CA:
Thought you'd be interested in the "cat" story. Everything going OK out here. Barb is working in a nursing home. I'm adjusting slowly to freeways, etc. (This was written before the earthquake and I just uncovered it.) Had the opportunity to do a little pigeon work (remember the famous pigeon kills in Albuquerque?) and on otter in the Aleutians. We seem to have fox problems gobbling up the famous Aleutian geese. Say hello to the gang.

Congressional pay raise will have a ripple effect on the taxpayers. Congress gets the champagne - the taxpayers, Ripple.

KITTY LITTER

(If you can't say anything good about cats - this column is for you.)

SERIAL KILLER STALKS FELINES is the headline on ED OLSON's article (see LETTERS). At least 30 cats have been killed in Contra Costa County (CA) over a period of five weeks by pellets guns or knives. (This is news as Californians usually go for bigger game, like people or coyotes.)

Steinway tries to run an upright piano

factory, but a pack of lowdown cats are sounding a sour note at night. The cats view the hand-crafted \$50,000 instruments as scratching posts and outhouses. These take a dozen workers a year to build, but their efforts can be undone in a night of feline revelry. The cats hide out on the 10-acre plant site (NYC) until workers leave at 4:30 PM. Next morning the pianos are covered with paw prints, scratches, and other such stuff. They blame the rats on a nearby dump attracting the cats. (I find it difficult to be too sorry for them as they are trapping the cats and then releasing them back into the dump. I too believe in releasing cats - from a Conibear trap.) COLUMBUS (OH) DISPATCH.

The best thing about trivia is that it keeps us from dealing with important issues.

HUMANS GOT RIGHTS???

(This is confined to Fitzwater's personal vendetta against the Animal Rights (AR) movement so any purists should skip it. In this last column I have culled my comments from only a portion of the materials received during the last month from members, so I think I have aroused some awareness of this threat to ADC.)

Mountain goats wallowing on some rare plants in the Olympic Nat'l Park (WA) have botanists and NPS fighting the ARs. The goats were introduced in 1920s and when the area became a NP, hunting was stopped. Now there are 1,000 goats in the Park destroying native plants, some considered rare. The NPS tried choppers and tranquilizers but the cost to capture and relocate ran to \$800/animal and many died in handling. When the NPS announced it was going to shoot the goats at \$40/head, the Fund For Animals objected on the grounds that the goats are rare animals.

And in another case of beauty and the beast - the GARDEN IN THE WOODS, a New England Wildflower Society preserve, has been trapping muskrats that are eating their rare flora to the dismay of the Framington Humane Society (Let's you and him fight). HOMER

The best attended session at a Phoenix meeting of neuroscientists was ANIMAL ACTIVISM 101 where Drs. Van Sluyters (UC-Berkeley) and Lisberger (UC-San Francisco) talked about their brushes with ARs and methods of combatting them. Their advice was to prepare your case well before trouble starts and enlist the support of your colleagues and institution. "You absolutely cannot defend yourself." You need public support and proof you are providing humane treatment of the subjects. Have the institution appoint a designated spokesperson who knows biomedical research and provide that person with a summary of what you are doing and its importance before trouble breaks. MIKE FALL, DWRC & SCIENCE (11/10/89)

Kathy Hixson was the first to receive a Master's degree in ANIMAL RIGHTS AND ETHICS at Colorado State University. Her thesis was on whether the human benefits gained from psychological research experiments on lab animals are worth the pain and suffering. HOMER FORD & COLORADIAN (Ft. Collins (CO)).

The Aspen, Colorado, Council put an ordinance written by an Animal Defense Fund lawyer before the residents that would ban businesses from selling apparel, including boots and shoes, made of or containing animal skin, hair, or fleece. They do exempt domestic livestock, however. (California, how can you let Colorado beat you out on these two publicity scams?) SHERM BLOM, DWRC & ROCKY MT. NEWS (11/25/89)

This "priority message" from PETA: PETA Chr. Alex Pacheco, PETA Communications Director Carol Burnett, and Ed Ashton have been indicted on serious federal charges of destruction of federal property in a "demonstration" against the Nat'l Insti. of Health. They "face years in prison and over a half million dollars in fines". Please send money (of course). RICK GRIFFITHS. DOD, MD

Under the headline: TEENS' PET CAUSE: ANIMAL RIGHTS is a frightening account of the inroads the ARs are making on young minds across the country. They are converting to vegetarianism

(hamburgers do look like brown broccoli, don't they?), opposition to dissection of everything from earthworms on up (I never enjoyed taking that same old cat week after week out of the pickle barrel either), and are mesmerized by the bright sayings of radical groups like PETA. TOM WALKER, DOD, PA & PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER (10/05/89).

From my favorite "quote-maker", Robin Duxbury (Rocky Mt. Humane Soc.), in referring to animals taken from a shelter to use in medical research - "The cruelty begins the minute the animal is taken away from the shelter and brought into the research lab." SHERM BLOM, DWRC & DENVER POST (10/13/89)

"KIDS RALLY TO SAVE BEAVERS FROM TOWN OFFICIALS" made it to the ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL (12/06/89) from Hatfield (MA). Sixth-graders are contesting the right of the City Council to remove (kill is such a dirty word!) a half-dozen beavers who have dammed Running Gutter brook and are threatening \$350,000 worth of road repairs.

James Kilpatrick's column blasts the "willowly fellow with long hair whose purpose was to spoil the hunter's day" during an AR harassment ploy. As JK says, "Having alerted the local TV stations, the animal lovers turn up on public lands...to ring cowbells or take to bullhorns, the better to flrighten the game. They chase wildly after the hunters, asking insipid questions and the TV cameramen chase wildly after the troublemakers. All this is supposed to preserve wildlife." MILT WEBSTER rtd. USFWS & DESERT SUN (Palm Springs, CA) where the lucky stiff is spending the winter.

ANIMAL-RIGHTS ACTIVISTS ARE FAR TOO TIMID by Jack Kisling (DENVER POST, 11/2/8/89): This is not to suggest they are bashful about shouting their views, torching meatpacking plants, spraying paint on fur coats, or pouring sand in cattlemen's gas tanks on tractors. But how can they be so vehement about eating meat and yet so callous about exploiting plants? Notice no AR zealot will be

caught dead having bacon for breakfast while at the same time munching an oat bran muffin with blueberries. Yes, oats and blueberries have feelings. People who talk to plants will tell you a tulip screams in agony when it is plucked. This single issue orientation is the moral equivalent of demanding equal education opportunity only for prosperous Caucasian families in industrialized nations. Typical of this narrow grasp of nutrition theology is the belief that only humans should be enjoined from devouring other animals, when it is clear that some non-human species are the biggest offenders. If we are to have real justice, the first step is breaking the carnivores of eating meat. The carnivores and omnivores must be reeducated or, if that fails, mopped up. Then we can start on the second phase - elimination of the sin of vegetarianism. Only then will all living organisms be freed from the disgusting curse of digestion. SHERM BLOM, DWRC.

Followup on the Air Force Academy deer hunt (PROBE #97). They were hoping to kill 80-90 deer but only got 61 does this season plus two illegal bucks (what say you to that, Robin? Sexual discrimination?) SHERM BLOM, DWRC & DENVER POST (11/21/89)

While everybody is talking about it nobody seems to realize the power of the ARs. There are an estimated 7000 animal rights/welfare groups in the USA today. These may have the largest and highest funded lobby on Capitol Hill, even bigger than the oil lobby. PETA has an office and two full-time lobbyists on Constitution Ave. They are rapidly becoming entwined with environmentalist groups. Under the umbrella of animal rights/welfare/environmental, we can place - factory farming, public lands use, wildlife, biomedical research, zoos, disease transmission, veterinarians, planet survival, endangered species, trapping, hunting - you name it!

The seeds started with the Animal Welfare Act (1968) standardizing care and housing of laboratory animals and becoming increasingly restrictive. Face

it, this will not go away! A survey shows that 8/10 (the public) feel livestock are routinely treated humanely, but 2/3 would vote for animal regulation; 60% believe animals share the same rights as humans in pain and suffering. One of the cries we hear is "turn the animals free". In reality this would be muddy fields, heavy parasite loads, swarms of insects, bad weather, fighting, etc. If we look towards Europe we can already see the trend for an "animal bill of rights."

What can we do? Take a closer look at agricultural production under concerned personnel. Get involved personally at local and state levels. Understand the political system and how to use it. And finally begin to educate the public on the true state of affairs. Over 85% of the information today regarding animal welfare originates from ARs who publicize half-truths out of context. MIKE FALL, DWRC & NAT'L WOOLGROWER, 11/89.

Just for Christmas - The Congressman doll. To make it talk, pulling a string isn't enough - you have to give it money.

PERSONNEL

ERNEST GIESE has retired after 34.5 years in ADC work plus another three in the military. He saw a lot of ADC problems in South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska, and Ohio before finally ending up as Asst. State Director in Oregon. Good Luck, Ernie!

JIM WINNAT and GARY SAN JULIAN took the coward's way out of resigning as NADCA RDs. Jim has been transferred from Wisconsin to APHIS State Director in Utah and Gary is making his visit from North Carolina to the NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION in D.C. permanent.

Instead of tying Congressional salaries to the inflation rate, why don't we tie it to the budget deficit?

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S PRINT TO FIT!!!

WILDLIFE'S BIG PROBLEM - CARS

The project of transplanting Canadian Lynx in the Adirondack Mountains (NY)

has run into a snag. Of the 18 animals brought from the Yukon, four have already been killed by cars showing they are unaware of this urban danger. Another two were killed when one died of "unknown" causes probably a larger predator and another was shot by a New Hampshire farmer who caught it raiding his chicken coop. This cat traveled over 250 miles across the frozen waters of Lake Champlain which should give other advocates of translocating animals some cause for worry - (How can you keep 'em down on the farm once they've seen gay Paree. Despite what you think, that song was the war before mine so don't bother to correct me.) CALIF. ADC & SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE (09/01/89)

FREE TO GOOD HOME- COUGARS (FREE LANCE-STAR 11/01/89). Eight cougars have accumulated at a wildlife rescue station in St. Petersburg (FL) and the handler is trying to give these 150-lb. cuties to anyone who will give them a good home. BOB BEACH questions if these animals escape who keeps them separated from the rare Florida cougar?

"OTHER ANIMAL EXPERTS" An article in THE WASHINGTON POST (Thanx to BOB BEACH, APHIS, MD) says they have been breeding black-footed ferrets at the National Zoo outpost in Front Royal (VA) with the intent of releasing them in the wild. They are afraid these won't know how to protect themselves in the wild so they have been shooting rubber bands at them to make them dive in their holes. The latest device was to stuff a road-killed Wyoming badger. The taxidermist put it in a fierce pose and mounted it on a radio-controlled toy truck. This puts the fear of predators into them too. (That is enough! This issue is getting too long. I quit!)

Congress voted themselves a big pay raise because nobody else would.

EDITORIAL

This is a little rushed as we have had a terrible time getting capable people to "volunteer" for offices in NADCA. But I am quite proud of the work HOMER, GEORGE, KI, WES, and YE ED have accomplished in getting together such an elite and talented slate. Now it is

your turn -- VOTE!!! The future of NADCA depends upon your participation which includes getting your dues in RAT NOW!!!! I am glad this is no longer my problem as despite my entreaties, your dues kept dragging in doubling my work in getting mailing lists updated.

I have had no news concerning an Editor(s) replacement so will probably put out the January issue after the election results, but THAT IS IT. Not that I think I've been doing the work of two, but this is a time-consuming job for somebody who has to work for a living.

I just tried to clean my desk off with Animal Rights articles that have piled up so this is a narrower issue than I like to publish. Next month I'll try to clear up most of the news articles and leave the "professional" stuff to the new editor.

EDITOR
WILLIAM D. FITZWATER

Adios and a
MERRY CHRISTMAS



I AM ENCLOSING REGISTRATION CARDS IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T ANTEED UP YET. PLEASE SEND THEM WITH YOUR DUES TO WES JONES, RT.#1, BOX 37, SHELL LAKE, WI 54871. THE POST OFFICE IS GIVING ME A HARD TIME SO WRITE TO ME AT 7104 BELLROSE AVE. NE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87110 NO MATTER WHAT THE ADDRESS SAYS OUTSIDE.

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Editor: William D. Fitzwater
3919 Altamonte NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

Advertising Mgr.: Kevin Clark
CRITTER CONTROL, 32932-B Warren,
Westland, MI 48185

NADCA Officers

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